m/053/00s



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November 22, 1999

To:

Wayne Hedberg

From: Doug Jensen

Re:

Repairs to the Fence Around the Goldstrike Mine.

On November 20, Dan Slyter and myself walked the North fence at the Goldstrike Mine for the purpose of making repairs. There were many areas where the top one or two wires had been broken due to deer jumping over the fence. In addition, we had to repair fifteen to twenty spots where the wire had been cut and the fence had been taken down. One of these sites will require another visit to replace several tposts that had been removed. The fence was repaired in this area but the placement of the posts will provide a stronger barrier against any cattle that may pass by that area. Dan will place these posts during his next compliance visit to the site. All the holes that we found cut in the fence were on the North side in the Beaver Dam Wash area. All these holes and broken wires were repaired and the wires were tightened where necessary.

There are six gates on this side of the site, all of which were found open. I had checked all of these gates prior to leaving the site last fall and they were all closed. There was no evidence of vehicle traffic on the roads through these gates, but there was signs that cows had been using some of the open gates to access the water in Beaver Dam Wash. Some of the tracks through the gates was quite recent (since the last storm in the area). When we arrived at the site we found two pairs (cows and calves) on Pad 2 and one lone cow in Arsenic Gulch. The BLM was notified as to the presence of the cows.

Of all the openings that had been cut in the fence, only the ones at the bottom of the Padre Waste Dump showed evidence that cattle had used them. All of these holes were repaired and "gandy dancers" were placed in areas where they were needed.

The next day I walked the fence from Arsenic Gulch down past Beavertail Pit to the lower gate. This portion of the fence was in very good condition. The only major problem that I found was two gates, located on this side of the mine site, were open. One of these gates is access to several claims located just to the South of the mine. The second gate is above the Beavertail Pit, on a road which was reclaimed when we closed the site last fall. There was no sign that cattle had used either of these gates to enter the site. Except for an area near the Beavertail Pit there was no evidence that the cattle had been on this side of the site for quite some time.

No BLM materials was required to complete these fence repairs. The materials used were purchased by the mine and had been stock-piled along the fence, as repairs of this type was an on-going project through the life of the mine.

As of this date the fence around the site is in good condition and should be sufficient to keep most cattle from accessing the site. Given the problems we historically had to keep the fence standing, I'm not sure how long that statement will be true.

CC: Mary Ann Wright, UDOGM, Associate Director Jim Crisp, BLM, Dixie Resource Area M/053/005.ltr